Supply of cooking gas through pipeline in cities of Gujarat

30. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cities like Ahmedabad, Bharuch, Ankaleshwar, and Surat are to be supplied cooking gas throught pipeline taps;

(b) if so, by when gas would be supplied to Ahmedabad city through pipeline-taps; and

(c) what is the quantity of gas allotted to the Gujarat Gas Company Limited?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Natural gas has been allocated for domestic supply in Bharuch, Ankleshwar and Surat. However, no gas has been allocated for domestic supply in Ahmedabad.

(c) The quantity of gas allotted to Gujarat Gas Company Ltd. is 0.47 million cubic meters per day.

Hotels in Tamil Nadu

31. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hotels opened by the Central Government in Tamil Nadu during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) whether Government propose to open more hotels in Tamil Nadu during the current year; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No new hotel has been opened in Tamil Nadu during 1987-88 and 1988-89.

(b) There is no proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Ahmedabad Airport

32. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long awaited demand for the conversion of Ahmedabad Airport as an International Airport;

(b) what are the reasons for providing only one Air India flight per week at this airport;

(c) whether any proposal to allow other international airlines to function at Ahmedabad airport is also under active consideration of Government;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Gujarat has offered to hand over construction of international airport at Ahmedabad to the International Airport Authority of India; and

(e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Suggestions have been received for the conversion of Ahmedabad Airport as an International airport.

(b) Owing to the capacity constraints, Air India is presently not in position to increase the frequency of the services.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Merger of Hotels of HCI with ITDC

33. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal under Government's consideration for the merger of hotels belonging to

the Hotel Corporation of India with those under India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) whether ITDC has rejected the said proposal; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The National Committee on Tourism had recommended the merger of Hotel Corporation of India with India Tourism Development Corporation. The Department of Tourism has dropped the proposal after examination.

Gas linkage for Gandhar and Pipavav Gas-based power projects

34. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal of the Gujarat Government for gas linkage for its Gandhar and Pipavav gas-based power projects are pending with the central Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the previous Government had taken any decision to clear gas linkage for the Gandhar power project; and

(c) if so, by when the Central Government would take a final decision for providing gas linkage to Gandhar and Pipavav power projects of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The availability of gas for Gujarat Government's Gandhar Power Project is being reviewed.

A decision had been taken in principle to allocate gas for the Pipavav power plant. However, this is dependent on the economic feasibility of developing the Tapti off shore fields of ONGC.

Cut in coal supply to Gujarat

35. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of coal to Gujarat has been reduced considerably recently;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of coal which has been reduced for industries in Gujarat and also the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when their requirement of coal is likely to be fulfilled for industries and power stations in Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Kelkar Committee Recommendation on pricing of Gas

36. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat and the industry have strongly opposed the Kelkar Committee recommendations on the pricing of gas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Central Government has accepted the Kelkar Committee recommendations without consulting the State Governments; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Represen-